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**--METHOD FOR DETERMINATION OF THYMIDINE KINASE 1 ACTIVITY
AND THE USE THEREOF**

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The present invention concerns a new method that enables safe, rapid, accurate and specific determination of thymidine kinase 1 activity in human or animal body fluids and tissue/cell extracts for routine analysis of samples with low levels of activity by using AZT or 3' derivatives of thymidine as substrate and determining the phosphorylated products formed in the reaction with thymidine kinase 1 activity. The invention further relates to the use of said method for the diagnosis, monitoring and prognostics of diseases such as cancer.--